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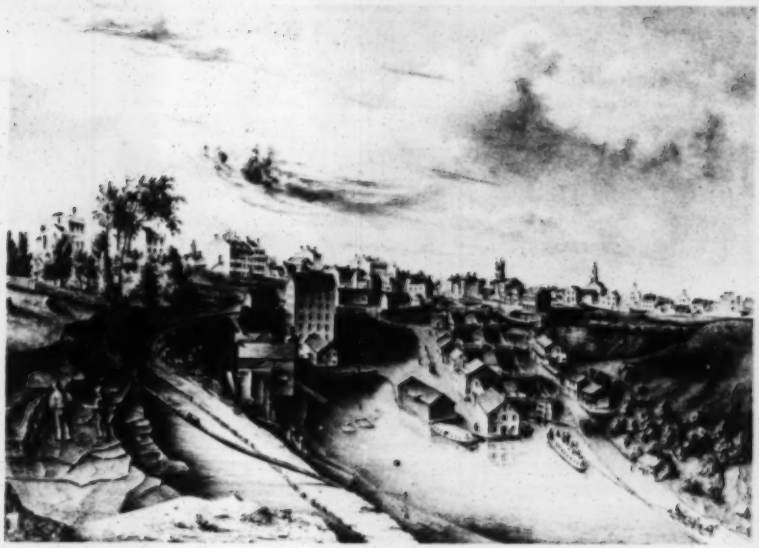

Lockport, N. Y.

National Trust for Historic Preservation

This 1878 photograph, looking east from the tower of Syracuse (N. Y.) Savings Bank, shows the juncture of the Erie and Oswego canals. Left: bridges at James Street over Oswego Canal and entrance to Durston's boat yard; center: boat leaving the Weighlock Building; right: Boat Onondaga.

Cover: An early lithograph, showing the locks of the Erie Canal, at the Upper Village of Lockport, Niagara County, N. Y. "Drawn from nature by W. Wilson."

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I've got a mule and her name is Sal
15 miles on the Erie Canal.

The E-R-I-E Is A-risin' Again

"America can never forget to acknowledge," charged Surveyor General Cadwallader Colden at the dedication of the Erie Canal, "that we have built the longest canal, in the least time, with the least experience, for the least money, and to the greatest public benefit."

"Canawlers" today, in tribute to our most important nineteenth-century transportation system, are slowly bringing life back to the canals. Particular emphasis is being given to the Erie, perhaps the greatest single public works in the United States during the nineteenth century.

Led by New York Assemblywoman Mildred Taylor, the Joint Legislative Committee on Preservation and Restoration of Historic Sites in September 1957 took a six-day cruise on the Barge Canal, to investigate the remains of the old Erie Canal and historically significant sites along its route. They were met by county and local historians as the barge cruised through the 350 miles of the canal from Waterford, where the Erie section of the state Barge Canal system meets the Hudson River, to Buffalo on Lake Erie. The study was made to determine what to preserve and restore of the Old Erie and how best to promote tourist travel to the area by vacation cruises and day excursions on the present Erie.

Groundwork is still being laid for plans eagerly outlined by the historians and local boosters: cleaning and filling the old canals, installing lock gates, reproducing old barges, and taking tourists for rides in an authentic period setting. Fort Hunter, a hamlet of 200

people in Montgomery County, is a proposed site for the reconstruction of a typical canal town of 1825-50, a "living museum," reflecting life on and adjacent to the early canals.

The village, at the junction of the Schoharie Creek and the Mohawk River, has been miraculously by-passed by time and remains almost unchanged throughout the years. Here in a compact and scenic area, where the original "Clinton's Ditch," the enlarged Erie, and the modern Erie Barge Canal run parallel, are examples of the three great canal eras. There are two of the only existing locks of the earliest Erie Canal era. The 1820 "Guard Lock" was constructed with cut stone from the ruined Queen Anne Chapel which stood in the path of the Ditch. Queen Anne herself (1665-1714) had caused the Chapel to be built "for her Mohawk Indians" in 1712. A mile of the original canal remains, terminating in a second lock at a junction with the canal of the improved era. It survived, for almost a century and a half, because it was used as a feeder for the Improved Canal (built in 1841) until the present Erie was canalized in the Mohawk River. The second 1820 lock and the larger and more elaborately constructed 1841 "Empire" or twin lock are in sharp contrast, the juxtaposition creating a unique picture of the two early canal epochs. All of the locks are in relatively good condition and are adaptable to restoration.

As the traveler approaches Fort Hunter today he sees the stately stone arches of the Schoharie Creek Aqueduct which, in 1841, was built to carry the canal across the wide creek. This eliminated the hazardous and difficult dam-cross, where in the slack water above the dam the canal boats were towed across the creek. The 14 remaining 40-foot arches and 13 great piers of the 624-foot cut-limestone structure are the "Roman arches over Indian Rivers" included in Herman Melville's description of the Erie Canal. "For 360 miles, through the entire breadth of the state of New York; through numerous populous cities and most thriving villages; through long, dismal, uninhabited swamps, and affluent, cultivated fields, unrivaled for fertility; by billiard-room and bar-room; through the holy-of-holies of great forests; on Ro-

Remains of the aqueduct which took the Erie Canal across the Schoharie Creek at Fort Hunter.

man arches over Indian rivers; through sun and shade; by happy hearts and broken; through all the wide contrasting scenery of these noble Mohawk counties; and especially, by rows of snow-white chapels, whose spires stand almost like milestones; flows one continual stream of Venetian . . . life."

The aqueduct, a combination of grace and utility, ranks as one of the finest monumental structures in the country. Following its construction, engineers from Europe came to view the remarkable accomplishment of carrying a canal high above a river; artists came to sketch it and carried their pictures back to England to be used for designs on Staffordshire pottery.

With sufficient funds and careful historical and engineering research, it is thought practical to restore the two well-preserved twin locks of the 1841's and the two original locks to their original condition. The stone work is still in excellent shape; the canal bed on either side is relatively free from fill and debris; and an adequate water supply exists in the adjacent Schoharie Creek and Mohawk River to operate the locks and fill the lock-chambers and canal beds. Much of the original iron work for the locks of the improved period has been stored and preserved by the Department of Public Works. The 1840 Lock Grocery at Yankee Hill, between the canal and the river, is in good condition and still inhabited. A portion of the building could be made suitable for showrooms, and a part used as a reconstruction of the grocery itself.

A popular adjunct to a canal museum at Fort Hunter proposed by the Fort Hunter Canal Society (a Trust member) and others is a short trip on a nineteenth-century canal boat, with horses or mules as motive power. The towpath, on the embankment between the natural and man-made water-

An 1898 view of the Weighlock Building, Syracuse, N. Y. Recently saved from destruction, the structure will become a canal museum under the administration of the Onondaga Historical Association.

ways, needs little repairs. The level just east of the Yankee Hill lock, opening into today's canal, the Mohawk River, is ideal for the establishment of a mooring basin for the use of pleasure craft, and would be ideally suited for the home port of a vessel offering a week's vacation cruise on Erie water. No deluxe cruise is envisioned but rather a return to the simple life on an Erie Canal barge or packetboat.

The saving of the Weighlock Building, believed to be the only remaining structure of its type along the route of the old Erie Canal, was the first major step in the preservation of the Erie and its lore. The two-story red-brick structure, constructed in 1849-50, was originally used to weigh boats that plied the canal as they ran through Syracuse. Boats were drawn into the lock and weighed to determine the toll. The Onondaga County legislative delegation has campaigned for 15 years to prevent its destruction and have it preserved as a canal museum. Recently it was headquarters of the state district highway engineers. When they moved to the new state office building, it was feared the building would be demolished to make way for new arterial highways in Syracuse. Early in March, however, the state agreed to turn the structure over to the county which accepted it by paying the legal fee of $1. Provision was included in the legislation to permit the education department to turn it over to the Onondaga Historical Association for operation as a canal museum. Members of the Junior League and the Junior Chamber of Commerce have expressed interest in assuming responsibility for staffing the museum. The Canal Society of New York State will undertake the task of assembling and setting up the historical displays.

The group particularly interested in the past and present of the canals is the Canal Society of New York which has more than 400 members from the United States and abroad. The "canawlers" are hobbyists and historians, students and teachers, active and retired boatmen, users, operators, and administrators of today's Barge Canal system, and sons and grandsons of canal families. *Bottoming Out* is the name of their magazine which contains "useful and interesting notes collected for members of the Society."

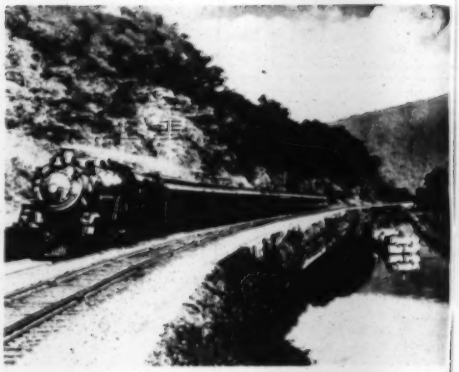
The Seminars on American Culture conducted annually at Cooperstown, N. Y., include a course on the "Canals of New York." Records indicate that suggestions for a canal linking the East with the West appeared as early as 1724, and that one of the earliest laws pertaining to the establishment of canals is dated March 1792. Thomas Jefferson, while favoring the idea of a canal in general, considered its construction a physical impossibility and its advocates a hundred years ahead of their time. Even though laws had been passed, the first promoters of the Erie Canal were considered by the multitudes to be dreamers and visionary enthusiasts and were made to endure abuse and insults. It wasn't until about three years after construction on the canal had started that the opposition quieted, and people became united in a concerted effort to complete the enterprise. Although the War of 1812 delayed the starting of the canal, it emphasized greatly the need for canals. Finally in 1825 "Clinton's Folly" was completed. Great celebrations were conducted in most places along the waterway from Albany to Buffalo. Schenectady, however, proposed a funeral procession rather than a formal reception for the first travelers on the canal.

Originally the canal was four feet deep, 40 feet wide at the surface, and 28 feet at the bottom. It had 83 locks of 90-foot length, and in total they lifted barges 570 feet above sea level.

The original construction cost was 7 million dollars—a staggering sum in that day. The initial construction was an arduous and tedious task, and there were many political as well as physical obstacles. Three thousand men, 500 horses, and 200 yoke of oxen started construction in Rome and dug in both directions. The canal was finished about six years before the building of the first section of the New York Central Railroad; and in 1825, its first year of operation, 185,000 tons of freight moved eastward on the eight-day trip from Buffalo to New York. The barges on the canal were drawn by teams of mules. The barge attendants and team drivers are some of the most colorful characters in all American history, and many of our lustier folksongs were conceived by those men while taking a load of freight across the state.

The New York State Barge Canal system today is made up of four connected canals: the Erie, Cayuga-Seneca, Oswego, and Champlain. The channel is 12 feet deep, 75 feet wide, and the 83 locks of the old Erie have been reduced to 35. Steel motor boats navigate under their own power and have capacities of thousands of tons. Perhaps the chief change, however, is that today full use is made of the natural water courses and lakes, it being possible with modern methods to control their level with movable dams, special gates, and sluices.

DeWitt Clinton was not the first American to think of a canal, and the Erie, of course, was far from unique. George Washington was a promoter of canals and considered it of great political as well as commercial consequence to link the East with the West. He planned what is still one of the most picturesque waterways in the country, the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal that runs along the north bank of the Potomac; William Penn dreamed of joining the Susquehanna with the Schuylkill



The railroad and the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal at Harper's Ferry.

and Delaware Rivers; and practical Benjamin Franklin endorsed heartily this "quiet and always manageable" form of travel. Evidences of many of these waterways still survive, like the Schuylkill, from Philadelphia to Pottsville; the Delaware and Hudson; the Lehigh, from Mauch Chunk to Easton; the Morris, a real engineering wonder from Jersey City to Phillipsburg; perhaps the most inventive of all being the Pennsylvania Canal, parts of which still wind peacefully through Pennsylvania farmlands. Like many another, the Pennsylvania, opened in 1834, was a little too costly and a little too late. With the coming of the railroads, most canals fell into disuse and passed slowly from the American scene.

The recreational and historic values involved in old areas around the canal beds are inestimable. There are scattered traces in Ohio of its seven different systems of canals totaling 813 miles. A public recreation area has been developed around the locks and canal at Independence, and the Anthony Wayne Parkway Board (a Trust member) is planning a state park at Lockington, where a series of five locks and an aqueduct are still in an excellent state of preservation. The board plans to

reconstruct an old packet boat that can be placed on a segment of canal along the parkway.

Canal travel may appear idyllic today, but there was scant comfort aboard the boats. Averaging about two or three miles an hour, the boats provided a leisurely but cramped means of transportation. The packet usually comprised a very large cabin set upon a barge with a curved prow. The crew consisted of a captain, two drivers for the animals on the banks, two steersmen, and a cook. The cabin was generally divided into three compartments: a small one served as a ladies' washroom; one was the ladies' cabin; and the third not only provided sleeping quarters for the men, but also became an assembly room, lounge, and diner. Passengers slept on shelves three feet wide; their bedding was a straw-stuffed mattress and pillow. Since the boats were usually crowded, many of the guests slept on tables and on the floor.

Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas has shown a dedicated and enthusiastic interest in preserving the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal from Washington into Virginia and Maryland, with its tremendous value to a crowded urban area for history, for nature conservation, and for recreation. The C. & O. Canal is one of the least-altered of the older American canals and acts as a model and inspiration for other canal restoration programs.

Fostered by George Washington as early as 1754, the Potowmack Company was organized in 1785. The Potomac Canal, opened in 1802, was succeeded by the enlarged Chesapeake and Ohio in 1828. It operated until 1924 when loss of traffic to more modern modes of transportation and damage caused by floods caused its abandonment. During its lifetime, the 185-mile canal was used to carry flour, grain, lumber, and coal from the rich deposits around Cumberland; in its peak year of 1875 more than a million tons of coal were transported over the narrow waterway. The canal had 74 lift-locks, each having a capacity to lift or lower a boat approximately eight feet.

It was purchased by the federal government in 1938. Soon after its acquisition the restoration of the Georgetown Division, extending 22.1 miles between Georgetown, D. C., and Seneca, Md., was undertaken by the National Park Service. The area is a part of the National Capital Parks which is administered by the National Park Service of the U. S. Department of the Interior. At all seasons of the year the towpath serves as an easy access to this outdoor laboratory, and park naturalists and historians frequently conduct guided trips. Canoeing, boating, hiking, fishing, picnicking, and ice skating are among the recreation facilities to be enjoyed. Special tours, via an old-time mule-drawn barge, the *Canal Clipper,* are available during the summer. The barroom of the restored Crommelin House, the tavern and lock keeper's house at Great Falls built by the canal company between 1828-31, is a Canal Museum, with one portion furnished as a typical lockhouse. The lock tender was allowed use of the lockhouse, a garden plot on the adjacent company land, and was paid a small salary to compensate him for his labors.

O the Ee-rye-ee was risin'
The gin was gettin' low
And I scarcelye think we'll git a drink
Till we git to Buffalo-o-o
Till we git to Buffalo.

—T.B.M.

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS

"May I suggest," a Trust member writes, "that *all* schools give a lecture (fresh or 'canned,' by radio, movie, or television) of the work of historic preservation. Get the young ones interested in PRESERVING the buildings in their own neighborhoods! The others belong to other children. Ask that *all* school children be taught to wash the doors of their classrooms and buildings, pick the heads off dandelions in season (to eliminate the pest), instead of leaving it to someone else. In short, 'odd-jobs,' now, will lead to preservation of historic monuments, if and when they become historic."

From Purwokerto, Indonesia, came the following letter: "I am a student of high school, where I partake history and language as the main lesson. I want to know the America's growth as a great democracy state or American's history. Therefore I hope you like sending me some perfect information about U.S.A. that is also necessary to provide my examination in the future. At last I say think you very much for your assistance to me."

A newspaper man recently requested "information on what other cities and counties and states have done to preserve historic buildings, laws passed, methods for enlisting cooperation from owners, and total achievements to date. Your prompt attention will be appreciated."

* * *

A technician at Cornell University recently paid $675 for a church in South Danby, N. Y., that dates back more than 100 years. The student, who worshipped in the church as a child, bought the structure at a public sale when it appeared it would be torn down. He plans to paint and repair the church and let organizations in the area use it as a meeting-place.

PROPOSED PRESERVATION

Boston, Mass. Old Howard, or the Howard Athenaeum as it is known to Boston's non-burlesque fans, has been proposed as a national historic site to Senator Saltonstall (R.-Mass.), by a young Boston theatrical producer named Dean L. Gitter. President of Repertory Boston, Inc., Mr. Gitter envisions not only restoring the Old Howard "to its original grandeur," but also establishing a Howard National Theater Museum. He is forming a non-profit foundation to raise $1,100,000, sufficient to acquire the site, restore the building, and collect "theatrical artifacts" to be displayed in the museum. To be restored also is the slogan used when the Old Howard was in its cultural heyday: "As Rome points proudly to her Coliseum, so Boston treats her Howard Athenaeum." With a stock company and visiting stars, the Howard presented the great plays and most of the grandest operas for fashionable Boston audience of the mid-nineteenth century. Its first production was Sheridan's *The Rivals*, with William Warren, who was to become one of Boston's favorite stars. John Wilkes Boothe, the actor who assassinated Lincoln, also played on the raked stage. Architect Isaiah Rogers, who reconstructed Massachusetts' old state house in 1830, designed the Old Howard in 1846. To make the most of their theatrical property, the owners built a brewery in the basement where they produced beer, ale, and mineral water. In its later years, as a bastion of burlesque, the Old Howard was more notorious than famous. It was once closed by police for exhibitions that, according to Elliot Norton of the Boston *Globe*, "would have made Nero shudder."

York Village, Maine. Jefferds' Tavern will soon be moved down York Street to its new location next to the

Old School House in York Village. The news was announced by the Society for the Preservation of Historic Landmarks. The Tavern will be added to a group of historic sites and buildings: the Old Gaol, the Wilcox House, the Old School House, the Old Burying Ground, and the First Parish Church.

Philadelphia, Pa. Scene of the "forgotten battle" of the Revolution, Fort Mifflin may soon be rescued from weedy neglect. The Greater Philadelphia Movement, a group concerned with promoting metropolitan improvements, wants the city to take possession of the fort and turn it into a national monument. A report submitted to Mayor Richardson Dilworth calls for the city to spend $70,000 immediately to make emergency repairs. The groups then would join with the city and other organizations to raise $1,000,000 required for a complete restoration of the 43-acre site. Fort Mifflin is on the bank of the Delaware near the mouth of the Schuylkill. In November 1777, it was besieged by the British. Cannon fire, which reached a peak of 1000 shots every 20 minutes, reduced the fort to a shambles on November 15, ending a battle that started October 21. With 70 per cent of the 350-man garrison killed or wounded, Maj. Simeon Thayer, the commander, evacuated his forces and set fire to the ruined barracks. Some original stone walls are standing. The rest of the ramparts and the brick buildings inside the compound date to 1798, when the fort was rebuilt during the administration of President John Adams. Additions were made in 1814 and succeeding decades until the Civil War, when Confederate prisoners were housed in the fort's dungeons. Philadelphia may take possession of the site any time, the federal government and the state having taken necessary action to relinquish their claims to the property, which is near the International Airport. "The battle of Fort Mifflin," states G. Edwin Brumbaugh, "has been called the forgotten battle of the American Revolution. Even the history books in Philadelphia schools contain no reference to the fort or to its siege. Yet, the stubborn defense of this hastily completed fortification against hopeless odds was one of the most courageous and inspiring actions of the entire war."

Folsom, Calif. The Folsom Historical Association was organized recently, with its immediate goal to assist the city in the restoration of the Wells-Fargo office building. The structure was saved in a campaign led by the Chamber of Commerce, and was moved to the city park where it will serve as a museum of early California life. While it was being moved, workmen found a gold receipt dating to the Civil War in the gold vault. The old granite and brick structure, erected 99 years ago, was a stopping point for Pony Express riders and was occupied for some time by the Wells-Fargo Company. During the mining era Folsom was one of the most prosperous towns in the state. It was the distributing point for the communities to the East, including Washoe and Virginia City in Nevada. In those days it was not uncommon for 20 or 30 wagon trains to depart daily with freight. Another six or eight stages left the office with passengers heading for the mines.

Fairfield County, Ohio. An appropriation of $50,000 was made to the Ohio Historical Society (a Trust member) at a recent session of the legislature for the purchase and development of Old Rock Mill in Fairfield County. The mill and a covered bridge adjacent to it are well-known landmarks on the Lithopolis-Hooker road, 25 miles southeast of Columbus and five miles northwest of Lancaster. The mill is on the Hocking River at the end of a deep gorge, which extends for about half a mile above and below the mill.

The short covered bridge crosses the river about 50 feet above the mill. Of frame construction throughout except for its stone foundation, the mill is five stories high by the side of a large circular pool below a 14-foot falls. Three of the five stories are above the rim of the gorge and two are below it. Built in 1824 and remodeled in 1899, the mill ceased operation about 1905. The U. S. Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service is building a flood-control dam on the river three miles below the mill, which will impound a lake of approximately 20 acres. The mill will be complemented by the lake area and land surrounding it which has been purchased by the wildlife division of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, to be developed for fishing and recreation purposes.

Evanston, Ill. The Gothic Dawes mansion has been leased by Northwestern University to the Evanston Historical Society for its museum and headquarters. Through a special arrangement the Evanston playground and recreation board will sublease the 1½ acres of ground adjoining the mansion for a public park. The Society will use the two lower floors of the house which was the residence of the colorful Gen. Charles G. ("Hell and Maria") Dawes, former Vice President of the United States.

La Junta, Colo. The Department of the Interior has recommended enactment of legislation to establish Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site, one of the great fur-trading outposts of the pioneer West. The date of construction is not known, but historical evidence points to the year 1833. It was built by William and Charles Bent and Ceran St. Vrain. Described as a rectangular-shaped adobe building with high protective walls, two feet or more in thickness, it served as a frontier house for all sorts of supplies, a fortress for protection from the Indians, a hostelry, a trading post for several Indian tribes, rendezvous for trappers, and a stopping place for wagon trains passing over the mountain route of the Santa Fé Trail. John Fremont used the fort as a base of operations for his third expedition in 1845, and General Kearny and his army on their long march from Fort Leavenworth to Santa Fé in 1846 used the fort as a stopping place. During the war with Mexico it served as a military storehouse and hospital, and from about 1861-81 it was a stage station of the Barlow-Sanderson overland Stage, Mail and Express Company.

Union, N. Y. The Union Township Historical Society is conducting a drive to raise $25,000 to save the Caldwell Parsonage. The fund will be sufficient for the purchase and reconditioning of the structure as a museum. During the Revolution the courageous wife of Pastor James Caldwell chose to stand her ground to save the parsonage from the depredations of the retreating British mercenaries, chagrined by their ignominous defeat by the Minute Men and the Continental Army. A bullet fired through the window of the parsonage killed Mrs. Hannah Caldwell. This incited such indignation and determination that once driven from Connecticut Farms, the original name of the town of Union, the British were never able to return to battle on New Jersey soil. Burnt to the ground in 1780, the Parsonage was rebuilt two years later as a demonstration of the "strong will to obliterate the mark of tyranny and domination."

Marblehead, Mass. The police department will surrender its station, formerly the Old Town House, to enable it to become a museum of early Americana. Situated in the center of the Market Square, it was once the

center of most town activities. Erected in 1727, its first floor will be restored to its pre-Revolutionary appearance. Metal ceilings and other modern innovations will be removed, and the spacious rooms will be used to display historic paintings and books.

Philadelphia, Pa. The James Davis House, 217 Spruce Street; the Captain James Abercrombie, 268-270 South Second Street; and the Samuel Neave's, 272-274 South Second Street, lie within the Washington Square East redevelopment area and have been seized by the Redevelopment Authority. The Philadelphia Society for the Preservation of Landmarks (a Trust member) has resolved to make every effort to find new owners for these houses who will restore them to their former elegance. The Davis house was built before 1763 and has been called by the Society "probably the finest unrestored Colonial city house left in Philadelphia." The Abercrombie, a four-and-a-half story house, was the tallest colonial house in the city. Restoration of its captain's walk would permit a view of the Delaware River. Its neighbor, the Neave property, is an example of a wealthy merchant's water-front residence and store, now 200 years old.

Rugby, N. D. The Pierce County Historical Society seeks to raise $20,000 to develop a Geographical Center Museum, as a feature of the new Geographical Center Park. A pylon, or center marker, is expected to be built of rock gathered from every state and nation of the North American continent. A large collection of pioneer and Indian relics has been given to the museum.

SUMMER SCHOOLS

The sixth Bath summer school, for the study of English architecture, 700-1620 A.D., will be held in Bath, Somerset, England, June 23 to August 6, 1960. The school is sponsored by the Courtauld Institute of Art, London University. It provides an opportunity for those wishing to make a detailed study of English architecture and sculpture; although it is primarily intended for students and specialists, the course is planned to interest serious amateurs.

The ninth annual summer school on the country houses of England will be held at Attingham Park, Shropshire Adult College, June 6-July 27. The sessions are planned to attract those who have a genuine, though not necessarily a professional, interest in the Fine Arts. The main study, that of English Domestic Architecture and Interior Decoration, is amplified by lectures on the history of taste, and on social history.

Additional information on both schools may be obtained from the National Trust, 2000 K Street, N.W., Washington, D. C.

MEMBERSHIP

Recent new member organizations of the National Trust are the Allegheny County Committee, Colonial Dames of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; Audubon House (Fla.); Cherry Hill Chapter, the Questers (Mich.); McKendree College (Ill.); Mississippi Historic Foundation of Vicksburg (Miss.); Pioneer Village Museum (Utah); Reflection Riding (Tenn.); Rye Garden Club (N. Y.); Skidmore College (N. Y.); Texas Society of Children of the American Revolution; and Wessahickon Chapter of Pennsylvania, National Society of Daughters of the Colonists.

Woodlawn Gardens

The restored gardens of *Woodlawn Plantation* will be officially presented to the National Trust on May 27 at 3 P.M., with a simple ceremony in the garden, formally marking the end of the stewardship of the Garden Club of Virginia. The new president of the Garden Club, to be elected on May 18, will conclude the nine-year project against the colorful background of a spring flower show planned for May 27-28 by the Garden Club to celebrate the presentation. The project was made possible by the use of proceeds from the annual tour of Virginia houses and gardens, starting with the 1953 fund. Alden Hopkins, named at that time as landscape architect to collaborate with the National Trust staff at *Woodlawn Plantation,* will speak on the restoration.

Restoration of historic gardens within the state of Virginia has been an outstanding achievement of the Garden Club of Virginia since 1928. Other major historic gardens restored by the Garden Club are *Stratford, Monticello, Kenmore, Wilton,* the University of Virginia, and *Gunston Hall.* A recent project has been the garden of the Adam Thoroughgood House, Princess Anne County, which will be presented to the Adam Thoroughgood Foundation by the Garden Club of Virginia on April 9.

Since *Woodlawn Plantation* and mansion were wedding gifts to Nelly Custis and Lawrence Lewis from George Washington, it was natural for the garden's design to have influences from *Mount Vernon.* Innumerable cuttings were brought from the Lewises' former home at *Mount Vernon* and carefully tended. There had been small holly trees which George Washington had taught Nelly to grow from the red berry seeds. The beautiful boxwood which added the finishing touch to the five-acre lawn on the West was probably slipped from the bushes at *Mount Vernon.*

Gardening, music, and needlework were the special pleasures of the mistress of *Woodlawn.* One spring, Nelly wrote her friend Elizabeth Gibson that she had been "very busy planting trees &c today, planning a bower of woodbine for my darling Lorenzo—his future, (I hope she will be worth loving,)—& my grandchildren."

On October 18, 1834, Nelly Custis Lewis wrote to Charles M. Conrad: "I enclose you a sweet little white rose, it is the first that has appeared on the bush opposite the door since I gave you one sometime ago. I gathered it today for you, it was so pretty & sweet, & our Darling Tiffin, at my solicitation has just pressed her lips to it twice, to send you two kisses for 'good night.'" (Tiffin was Mary Eliza Angela Lewis, fiance, and later wife, of Charles Magill Conrad of Louisiana.)

Nelly wrote again to Charles on November 16, 1834: "The fine Rose bush is cover'd with icicles, & I rescued the last two pretty buds for you. The last rosebuds of Summer, are put away for you."

Angela Lewis shared her mother's devotion to *Woodlawn's* trees and flowers, as reflected in selections from her correspondence with her fiancé. "The flowers you are anxious should grow, look as if they would succeed," she wrote one winter. "Father has made me a frame which stands in the window of a room where there is a constant fire. I am very attentive to them, and I Hope they will flourish."

"I passed a very pleasant time during my absence, but after all there is no place like *Woodlawn,* and now that spring has commenced, it begins to look sweetly. Father has had the Trees trimmed, and the flowers are beginning to make their appearance, by the middle or last of this month this place will be

most beautiful. . . . We have Violets, and Hyancinths in bloom and some more common Flowers, but no Roses." (April 1, 1835)

Angela lamented the harsh winter of 1835. "The dreadful winter has killed some of our prettiest Trees, much to my sorrow, I always feel in losing a tree as if I had lost a friend, I think there is nothing in the world equal to a fine tree in the summer, I always feel refreshed by looking at one." (May 3, 1835)

"The rain has at last ceased but everything looks as fresh and open as possible, we have now a great many Roses and several other kinds of flowers. I wish I could send you one of our Damask Roses the perfume is so very delightful, it is almost as sweet as atta of Rose." (May 30, 1835)

With the death of Lawrence Lewis in November of 1839, title to *Woodlawn Plantation* passed so their son Lorenzo, whom Nelly joined at his estate *Audley*. In 1846 the *Woodlawn* mansion and 2030 acres of land were offered at public sale. Weeds had taken over the garden, honeysuckle choked the boxwood and rose gardens, shutters flapped in the wind, owls and bats flew in and out through broken windows, and swifts nested in the massive chimneys.

A year before her death, Eleanor Parke (Nelly) Lewis wrote to a friend of a visit made about 1851, "I do not forget your welcome visit to my sweet home, but you could not recognize it now—I went to see it when last in Alex[a]—all the trees, the hedge, the flower knot, my precious Agnes's Grove, the tall pine Washington, *all gone*, in front a few trees & vines, but sweet recollections 'linger there still'—If I live & recover to cross the mountain again, I will *again* like a poor exile visit my ruined home—"

Prior to National Trust ownership of *Woodlawn*, the last private owners were Senator and Mrs. Oscar W. Underwood of Alabama. During this time planting and boxwood gardens had again been developed. The estate was then acquired by the Woodlawn Public Foundation, a non-profit organization, which formally presented it to the National Trust in 1957. The restored gardens and mansion on U. S. Route 1 are open to the public daily.

Gazebo in the Woodlawn Gardens restored by the Garden Club of Virginia.

OF BUTTERFLIES AND PINS

One not ungentle critic viewed for the first time a notable restoration of the colonial period from which all structures and architectural features later than a named date had been removed and replaced with modern "reproductions." His comment was, "It is magnificent, it is beautiful, it is like a rare butterfly on a pin—only one is more conscious of the pin, than the butterfly."

Which comes very close to being the very essence of the problem of "What is historic preservation?" In its *Criteria for Evaluating Historic Sites and Buildings,* the National Trust offers its own well-considered answer from its Committee on Standards and Surveys. A British colleague, Ian Hairn, in *Counter-Attack against Sub-Topia* (London, 1936) offers his view:

A monument can either be just simply the sum of its scarcity and historical importance, or a living part of the environment, the past-in-the-present. If a monument is to live, it must not be railed off, fenced around, beautified or even pampered. It must stay in view, on its own merits: otherwise "preservation" means obliteration. In a metropolis there is no question of preserving the environment intact; buildings must fend for themselves like the Wren city churches, thereby creating new extremes of scale which are valuable in themselves. To reuse a palace as the town's post office is better than turning it into a museum. . . .

Impose trimmed lawns as the ministry of works do, on a ruined abbey in the middle of the countryside and you put the whole building into parenthesis. To keep a chancel arch as a garden gate or to make hay among Roman ruins, does not debase them, it heightens their value; it is the equivalent of accepting old people into your own home instead of sending them, respected but unloved, into an institution. With the monuments that our ancestors had left in the wilderness, there should be no interference whatsoever—no signs, no footpaths, no car parks, no curator in kiosk.

In his newsletter for January 1960, Walter Muir Whitehill, librarian of the Boston Athenaeum, reported the dedication of the American Philosophical Society's new library at Independence National Historical Park. He told of the librarians from the British Museum, the Vatican, the Bibliothèque Nationale, and elsewhere who were represented at the distinguished gathering; but noted with particular pleasure the large number in attendance from the Let-it-Alone Club.

Writing of "Carpenters' Hall and Faneuil Hall," he recounted the numerous attempts to lure the Philosophical Society from the quarters it occupied from 1789 in the State House Yard on Fifth Street, Philadelphia, and counts it "a conspicuous example of an institution that by standing its ground where it belonged has vindicated the principles of the Let-it-Alone Club." Mr. Whitehill continues:

As every large-scale restoration or redevelopment project does harm as well as good, Bostonians might well study the example of Philadelphia before pulling the center of their own city to pieces. The creation of Independence Mall, by demolishing all buildings between Fifth and Sixth Streets for several blocks, provides a grandiose approach to Independence Hall. It is, alas, far too grandiose for the scale of the buildings that it is designed to honor. And when one stands on the steps of Independence Hall and looks down this Mall one has only the dubious advantage of seeing automobile traffic being spewed on and off the approaches of the Walt Whitman Bridge that ties Philadelphia to Camden, New Jersey.

Between Chestnut and Walnut Streets, from Fifth to Second, save for a few monuments of high historical and artistic importance, everything has been demol-

Carpenters' Hall, in its twentieth-century setting, stands in "unaccustomed nakedness" against a contemporary aluminum and plate-glass office building.

ished. The intention of this was praiseworthy. The result is that Carpenters' Hall, the Second Bank of the United States, the Merchants' Exchange and the few others selected for preservation—all of which were designed to occupy lots in city blocks—now stand in unaccustomed nakedness, as if they were reconstructions at a world's fair. Important buildings are preserved, but out of context. No amount of planting will ever remedy the illusion of artificiality that results from wholesale demolition. Moreover one sees some of the buildings within Independence National Historical Park against a backdrop of unrelated structures outside the area. Carpenters' Hall was built to stand in the middle of a block, at the end of an alley. In walking down Walnut Street, from which the hall was traditionally invisible, one now sees it—as in the accompanying plate—against the setting of a contemporary aluminum and plate glass office building in Chestnut Street, outside the Park. With construction equipment at work it looked worse in November 1959 than it will eventually, but no number of tasteful brick-walled beds of ivy or lines of trees will ever adequately clothe its nakedness.

This kind of thing occurs when one attempts to "restore back" to an arbitrary date, demolishing everything—good or bad—that is of a later period. The other day a well-meaning person suggested that one might demolish a certain part of Charlestown and achieve a park that would simulate the appearance of the battleground of 17 June 1775. Obviously such a plan would involve the removal of Bunker Hill Monument, which dates only from 1825 at the earliest.

Even the handsomest building looks absurd when stripped of its surroundings and approached by Mussolini-like malls and plazas. It is equally unfortunate to see a small old building looking as if it were wrapped in cellophane and adorned with a bow to be placed under a Christmas tree. The Let-it-Alone Club believes that a respectable and useful nineteenth-century building makes a better background for a historic monument than a plaza—witness the Old State House and the office buildings that surround it. It further believes that new construction should be in large self-contained areas, like the Prudential development, rather than dropped at random, by variants of the zoning laws, into older regions that have, like Commonwealth Avenue, retained a considerable unity of height, proportion and color. Above all it does not want to see Faneuil Hall against a background like that of Carpenters' Hall in Philadelphia.

These reflections by two eminent authorities on the matter of pin points in time are worthy of our most considered reflection, before we again take off with butterfly net and dedicated zeal to snare an important specimen of our American past.

—H. D. B.

S.P.N.E.A. GOLDEN JUBILEE

William Sumner Appleton, founder in 1910 of The Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, believed that the growth of historic preservation would come through the combined efforts of informed individuals. His conception, as a 36-year-old Bostonian, of the first society of its kind in this country on a regional basis was largely successful because of his immediate and continuing insistence upon three elements in the Society's program. These elements might be summed up as *collecting, recording,* and *recruiting.*

The first of these was and is the collection of every form of record of the architecture, crafts, home and community life of an earlier New England. This includes architectural elements and fragments, photographs and measured drawings, original documents, post cards and stereoscopic views, wallpapers, domestic implements and utensils, and clothing and costume accessories.

The second is the accurate recording, in as much detail as possible, of historic houses and buildings wherever located in the region. Emphasis is placed on those structures in danger or in process of destruction, and on those structures to be preserved, at the time of acquisition, by the Society, or by other organizations or individuals.

The third element involves the enlistment of enthusiastic volunteers as trustees and members of the Society, who are willing to work to forward its purposes and to publicize the need to protect the three-dimensional evidences of the true quality and character of New England.

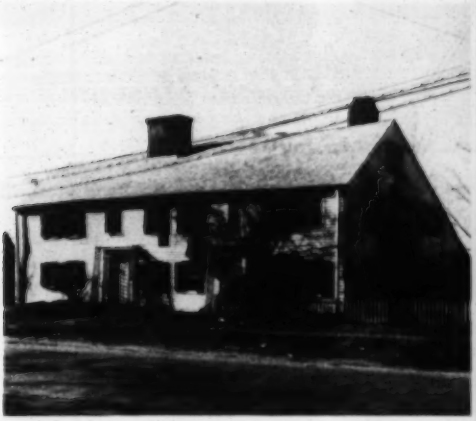
The Society's records and collections are contained in an ever-expanding central geographic reference file and in a New England Museum attached to the rear of its headquarters—the first Boston house built for Harrison Gray Otis in 1795.

Standing on their original sites, in five of the New England states, are the Society's 57 outlying properties which range in date from the mid-seventeenth century to 1811. Of these the Swett-Ilsley, *circa* 1670, was acquired in 1911 as the first of the Society's historic houses and is representative of the 16 others of its period now held by it. The latest acquisition is the Nickels-Sortwell House, 1806, Wiscasset, Maine, a Federal mansion long famed for its imposing facade. Since the importance of historic preservation was a new idea in some areas even as late as the 1930's, the acceptance of properties was often influenced by the desire to awaken responsibility for historic preservation in communities and districts.

The ownership of so many properties would have been impossible, because of inadequate endowments and rising costs, had not the Society in many cases concentrated on structural preservation and received the full cooperation of custodians living in the historic houses, caring for and showing them and contributing to their maintenance. Practical uses for some buildings have had to be found to accomplish preservation essential to the real character of their neighborhoods.

With the increase in number of individuals and organizations concerned with preservation, the Society has tried to keep pace by co-sponsoring conferences on historic preservation or sending staff members to serve on their faculties, and through consultative service on specific projects in so far as requests can be met by the Society's small staff.

—Bertram K. Little, Director
Society for the Preservation
of New England Antiquities



The Swett-Ilsley House, *c.* 1670, was originally built as a one-room, two-story house, and then added to at later periods. The house is now partly used as a tea-room.

The 1784 Governor John Langdon Mansion, Portsmouth, N. H., is owned by the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities. It was built by John Langdon who was a Revolutionary leader, governor of New Hampshire, first president of the U. S. Senate, acting-president of the United States prior to the election of George Washington, and the first to notify him of his election. During the Revolution John Langdon pledged his entire personal fortune to the cause. Here was entertained George Washington (1789) who wrote warmly of the house and the host. The mansion is furnished in the period and situated in extensive gardens. It is open to the public during the summer.

Another of the 57 properties owned by the S.P.N.E.A. is the 1785 Rocky Hill Meetinghouse, Amesbury, Mass. It is an example of an eighteenth-century Massachusetts meetinghouse which is practically unaltered. Services are held in it three Sundays each summer.

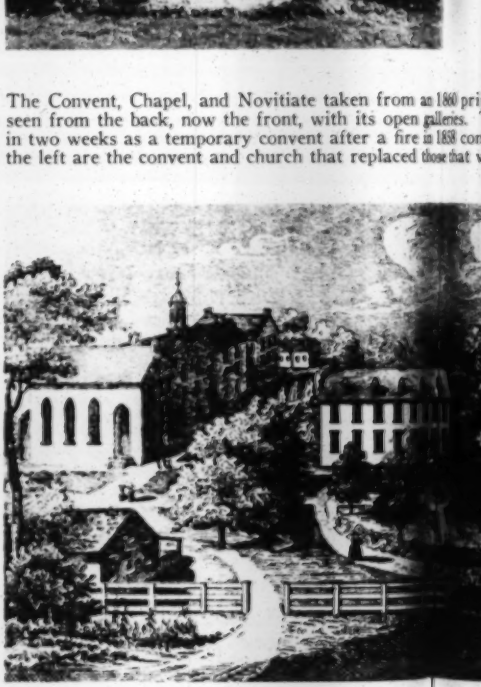
Loretto Museum

Loretto Historical Museum, one of the National Trust's newest members, is located in Nerinx, Ky., at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of Loretto, a teaching congregation. This flourishing national congregation is a tribute to its founder, the Reverend Charles Nerinckx, a Belgian exile and missionary who arrived in Kentucky in 1805. The first American community of religious women, to be founded and continued without foreign affiliation, was established in 1812.

A museum association is being planned to raise funds for museum expansion and many needed repairs, looking toward the 150th anniversary celebration, in 1962, of Loretto's foundation. The building in which the museum is located was the Loretto Academy from 1834 to 1888; from then it housed the novitiate. It contains among its treasures Father Nerinckx's desk, hand-carved wooden statues, church furnishings, and books brought to the early Kentucky missions by the Belgian missionary. He made two trips to Europe; in addition to obtaining financial aid for the church in Kentucky, he returned with a great store of church goods, paintings, books, furniture, and seeds and garden equipment for his people.

A letter written by the missionary to his parents in 1807, telling of the material disadvantages he encountered, is quoted from the *Chronicles of Loretto:* "In a recent letter I described to you all the 'nays' of this country, viz; no cheese, little or no vegetables, no wine, no beer, no oil, no coal, no turf, no bells, no sparrows, few or no singing birds, no mosquitoes, scarcely ever fresh meat, no stoves, no spices or fine herbs, no peaches, no fruit in fact, with the exception of wild apple and pear trees, no hedges, no ditches,

The Convent, Chapel, and Novitiate taken from an 1860 pri
seen from the back, now the front, with its open galleries.
in two weeks as a temporary convent after a fire in 1858 cor
the left are the convent and church that replaced those that



This 1834 building now houses the Museum under the custodianship of Sister M. Antonina. The back entrance, originally the front, reveals in its fanlight the year of its erection. The entablature panels, mantelpieces, and other details throughout the building were carved by John Charles Gilbert, a cabinetmaker brought from Europe by Father Nerinckx. The symbols of the entablature are indicative of the subjects taught within: sewing box, palette and brush, old square piano, globes, slate and pencil, and quill pen and ink bottle with open book or tablet. Classes were taught in the rooms on the first floor; dormitories were on the second floor; the wardrobe and plain sewing classes were located in the well-lighted attic. The wood used in the structure is poplar, brought in from the surrounding forest and hand finished.

m an 1860 print. The museum building, then the academy, is
en galleries. The Middle Building was constructed of brick
ire in 1858 completely destroyed the one erected in 1824. At
ed those that vanished in the flames in 1858.

no stone roads, no slate roofs, no floors or roof tiles. I told you that the most wonderful thing here was that there is nothing wonderful to be found. A Fleming can scarcely help being enticed to this country by curiosity. One thing might perhaps induce him to come; that is, the facility of making a living, if he is satisfied with little and is willing to work."

Father Nerinckx ministered to the Kentucky pioneers, many of whom had come from Maryland. His mission territory, a scarcely-cleared wilderness covering about one-half the state, required a journey, by horseback, of more than a thousand miles to complete the circuit. To visit all his churches and stations required at least six weeks.

He was responsible for bringing with him, on his return from Europe in 1817, and in 1821, several young men who later became Jesuits. It is said that the Father "lured" them to America with the promise, not of wealth and social distinction, but of labor and suffering in the harvest fields of God. When in 1823, Bishop Dubourg requested from the Maryland Jesuit Provincial priests for his vast diocese, these young Belgians volunteered and settled in Florissant, Mo., where they established St. Stanislaus Seminary. Five years later, they erected the first college which was to become the St. Louis University of today. Among the 1821 companions of Father Nerinckx was Peter de Smet, later to be the renowned missionary to the Indians of the Northwest, whose travels through the wilderness covered about 250,000 miles before his death in 1873. Just prior to his death at Ste. Genevieve, Mo., in 1824, Father Nerinckx visited these Belgian Jesuits at Florissant. Thirty years later, Father de Smet wrote his impressions of Father Nerinckx: "At the end of forty days [passage to America] we exchanged adieux with the venerable and

worthy M. Nerinckx, a man eminent for sanctity and learning, and full of zeal for the salvation of souls, justly deserving to be styled one of the principal apostles of the American Church. . . . We quitted him, filled with reverence and respect for his person. The sage counsels which he unceasingly gave us, and the example of his eminent virtues that we had beneath our eyes during the forty days' passage, have ever remained present to the memory of his companions."

At Florissant, the good missionary from Kentucky gave encouragement to the valiant Mother Rose Philipine Duchesne in her efforts to educate the Indians. She is known as one of the great women of early American history. The Sacred Heart Convent, built under Mother Duchesne's direction in 1819, was taken over in 1847 by five sisters, under the direction of dauntless Mother Eleanora Clarke from Loretto Motherhouse, Ky. The spacious brick Loretto Academy erected later by them was destroyed by fire in 1919. There remains at Florissant the Mother Duchesne Convent, one of the few surviving structures in the Federal style in Missouri. The 1821 Roman Catholic Church of St. Ferdinand, adjoining the convent, is the oldest Catholic Church building remaining in the state.

The Loretto Motherhouse originally at St. Charles, Ky., was relocated in 1824, 60 miles from Louisville, Ky., on St. Stephen's farm. Here had lived the Rev. Stephen Theodore Badin, the first Roman Catholic priest ordained in the then United States, by the first Bishop, Rt. Rev. John Carroll, Bishop of Baltimore; here, too, had resided for a time in a log cabin, Rt. Rev. Benedict Joseph Flaget, Kentucky's first bishop. In 1895, the log cabin house of Father Nerinckx was removed from St. Charles to be enshrined on the grounds of the Motherhouse. St.

The Convent of the Sacred Heart at the Roman Catholic Church of St. Ferdinand in Florissant, Mo. Recently endangered, the convent and church buildings may be saved through the combined efforts of the Friends of Old St. Ferdinand, incorporated in 1958 with both Catholic and Protestant members. The Friends seek funds to preserve the convent, the church, and its attached rectory, and to develop a program of rehabilitation under the direction of His Excellency, the Archbishop of St. Louis, subject to the approval of the canon laws of the Roman Catholic Church. St. Louis County has been authorized to purchase 16 acres of surrounding land to insure the preservation of these buildings in an open landscaped setting.

Stephen's farm came to be known as Loretto, as did the surrounding village; today it is known as Nerinx, deriving its name from the post office located on the premises.

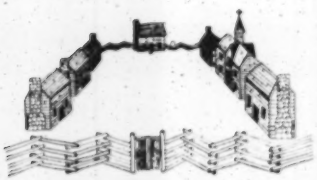
In 1834, after years of prayer, toil, and anxiety, the Sisters of Loretto were able to greet their pupils in a newly constructed brick building of Federal period architecture. A notice appeared in the Bardstown *Herald* of February 8, 1834 (with the request to the Louisville *Journal* and Greensburg *Republican* to insert the same to the amount of $2.00 and send account to the Sisters), stating that the new

building cost $6,000. Under the heading "Loretto Benevolent and Literary Insituation," it advertised that the Academy was well supplied with tutoresses, well qualified to teach the branches specified: "Board and Washing per session $27.50; Bed and Bedding when furnished $3.00; Tuition in Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, Plain Sewing, Marking, English Grammar and Orthography $6.00; Geography with the use of Maps and Globes, Fancy Needle Work, Embroidery, Beading, Drawing and Painting, Rhetoric, including Composition, History and Natural Philosophy, extra $4.00; French, extra $5.00; Music with the use of Pianos, extra $15.00."

The first graduate from this 1834 building was Mary Jane Lancaster in 1837. In 1839 she married Richard M. Spalding and their first son became Rt. Rev. John Lancaster Spalding, Bishop of Peoria. It is supposed that it was at this graduation that Henry Clay gave the address that tradition accredits to him.

From their very humble beginnings, the Sisters of Loretto number 1,100; they teach 36,000 children (30,000 in elementary grades, 5,000 in high schools and 1,000 in two colleges) in 11 states from Virginia to California. The Loretto sisterhood is governed at present by Mother M. Luke, Superior General, and her Council who reside at the Motherhouse.

—T.B.M.



PROGRESS REPORT

November 1958 McKendree College Chapel was given a year's reprieve from a sentence of destruction, although its steeple had already been demolished. At the end of 1959 the Board of Trustees announced they would allow the structure to remain, even though the campaign of McKendree College (a Trust member) to raise $100,000 for restoration expenses had not been successful. During the year more than $10,000 was collected from alumni. The Board stated that the building would be made structurally sound and its assembly hall would be used as in the past. Restoration will follow as funds are available. The chapel, completed in 1858, is one of Lebanon's best known structures, one of the oldest buildings on McKendree campus, and perhaps is the oldest of the Methodist college chapels in the country. Dr. Paul W. Yost, son of a former president of McKendree, states, "I have always marveled that, during a period when architectural monstrosities were coming into vogue, a building of such pure lines, excellent proportions, and great dignity was erected on the campus of a small Illinois college. . . . The McKendree College Chapel is more than just a fine old building. To me, it is the very symbol of McKendree College and of all small, church-affiliated colleges struggling for survival at a time when godless education is exerting a profound influence on our nation."

The Cochise County Court House, Tombstone, Ariz., restored by the Tombstone Restoration Commission (a Trust member), has been taken over by the Arizona State Parks Board. It is now known as the "Tombstone Court House Historical Monument." The state will continue to operate the museum in the building which is open daily to the public.

Decorations on the facade of the Arnold-Cowing House range from the frieze under the eaves to the keystone lintels, recessed arches around five windows, and the arches of the first-floor fanlight, the central window above it and the half-moon window repeating the pattern on the third floor. James McNeill Whistler once said that the entrance and its surrounding ornamentation seemed to him to compose one of the most beautiful doorways in all New England.

Spring Deadline

A spring deadline faces a small group of citizens working to save one of the South Shore's most distinguished buildings, the Arnold-Cowing house, at Weymouth Landing, Mass. The three-story brick house, in the style of McIntire, was built in 1803 by a Weymouth shipowner, shipbuilder, and tavernkeeper, Samuel Arnold, Jr. Owned for many years by the Cowing family, the house for the past 32 years has been the rectory of the Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church. According to parish plans, it will be torn down in the spring to make room for a larger lawn for the new Sacred Heart School already under construction behind it. Built in the same era of shipping prosperity which provided the wealth to pay for most of Salem's "captain's houses," the Arnold-Cowing house is similar to Salem mansions in its basic design and many of its decorations.

Captain Samuel Arnold the Younger, as he is known in Weymouth records, was the son of Samuel Arnold, taverner, whose small inn stood directly across from the house until 1920, at the bend in the stagecoach road connecting Boston and Plymouth, and subsequently known as Commercial Street. In 1775, on March 9, the Committee of Correspondence convened at the tavern to arrange plans for uniting with neighboring towns to defend the rights of the people during the Revolution. It is said that the tavern harbored powder, bullets, and arms. The younger Arnold was born in the tavern on August 21, 1774, and died in the Arnold-Cowing house September 28, 1816.

The house was apparently placed geomantically, although in the immediate vicinity of the house the topography is somewhat obliterated by buildings, change of land contours, and the filling in of the old Smelt Brook.

The architecture suggests that Arnold decided to splurge on a fancy dwelling, a city house looking over the bustling activities of the Landing. Wakefield Cronin, an ardent worker for the house's preservation, writes that it is "almost completely intact as to details and completely intact as to structure." "Its bare, simple third-floor rooms," states Sinclair Hitchings, *Patriot Leader* staff reporter, "are a striking contrast to the decorated rooms on the floors below. Arnold spent freely on the rooms which would be seen by visitors, but aimed for plain utility in

the others. On one side of the house the original first, second, and third-floor mantels survive. On the other they have been replaced with more elaborate mantels. The difference may indicate that at one time two families used the house. One of the most unusual details of decoration is the double arch in the entryway. One arch frames the stairway, the other the hallway leading into the rear of the house. Three other arches, the fanlights of the front door and the doorways of the two front rooms, also grace the entry. The surviving details of the house range from such adornments to simple domestic fittings—an original box lock in a second-floor closet, boards with pegs for clothes set into the plaster of third-floor rooms."

While the house was owned by the Cowing family, its gardens were well known for their beauty, and violets grew there so profusely that once a year they were made available for anyone in the town to gather.

Most devoted worker crusading to save the structure is the Rt. Rev. Bennett J. O'Brien, parish priest. He succeeded in having three articles concerning the preservation of the Arnold-Cowing house presented before the Weymouth town meeting last March. Favorable action on the articles was urged; but the town, following the advice of the Appropriations Committee, took no action. Estimates of the cost of moving the building range from $75,000 to $100,000.

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

North Kingstown, R. I., Town Council gave its approval to a Historic Zoning Ordinance to preserve the area running down both sides of West Main and Main Streets from the North Kingstown post office to the town wharf. The other streets affected are Gold, Wall, Fountain, Bay, Washington, Fowler, Friend, Pleasant, Elam, Franklin and Spink, and Church Lane. The ordinance stipulates that no new building shall be constructed, nor any existing one altered, repaired, moved, or demolished in any way to affect its exterior appearance or location, without the approval of a five-man board to be known as the Historic Zoning Commission.

To clear the path for using federal urban renewal funds to root out the slums of Charleston, S. C., a state constitutional amendment is being sought by the Historic Charleston Foundation (a Trust member). South Carolina cities, with the exception of Spartansburg, cannot participate in urban renewal programs because they lack the authority to condemn private property for resale to private redevelopers.

"To preserve permanently as a national park an area of national significance in Colorado and Utah, such park to be known as the Dinosaur National Park . . ." Senate Bill 160 was introduced in the 86th Congress, 1st session. Dinosaur National Monument, 200,000 acres of magnificent wilderness and scenic area became famous—and was almost lost. When the original plans were made for the upper Colorado River Storage Project, it was to be the site of a huge dam and man-made lake that would have inundated thousands of miles of natural splendor and pre-historic remains. One effect of the battle that raged over the dam was a terrific upsurge in visitors and the need to conserve the area it already owns by proper National Park administration. A dramatically illustrated 24-page information booklet is available through The Council of Conservation, Inc., P. O. Box 454, Short Hills, N. J., a non-profit organization, at $.10 for single copies, $1.00 a dozen.

Maryland became the first state to apply formally for the "bonus" it may receive for enacting billboard regulations that meet federal standards—that small ½ of 1 per cent watered-down version that surmounted the billboard lobby's opposition. The percentage may be small compared to the 90 per cent federal share, but is not negligible. For Maryland it could mean $2 to $3 million. So far only three other states are eligible: Wisconsin, Connecticut, and South Dakota. Virginia has legislation pending in that state where the tourist "industry" runs into millions annually, which will qualify it. The bill has wide support of legislators, the Virginia Advisory Legislative Council, garden clubs, and other civic groups, but is encountering powerful opposition. The Washington *Post* comments editorially on how difficult it should prove for other states to accept the money for interstate highways but refuse the added dividend for protecting them from disfiguring billboard encroachment. "This applies with special force to Virginia. There a model signboard regulation is now before the General Assembly, which is debating means of raising drastically needed new revenue. Here is an ideal way to pour some money into the state's coffers and at the same time please everyone except the billboard lobby." *The deadline for application for the bonus is July 1961.*

Attorney General William P. Rogers on January 15 submitted a 15-page opinion to President Eisenhower upholding the jurisdiction of the National Commission of Fine Arts in its regulation of all building projects of restoration and construction in the Old Georgetown District of Washington, D. C. The other matter in dispute, in which the Fine Arts Commission was further upheld, was whether the Act was confined to buildings proper, or extended to such appurtenances as advertising signs, fences, and walls. In citing numerous other precedents for upholding the constitutionality of the Old Georgetown Act, and similar acts, the Attorney General states that the Supreme Court of Wisconsin has gone even further in sustaining as a valid exercise of the police power an ordinance regulating the architectural features of new buildings, without reference to any historical factors and based solely on their relation to the architecture of existing structures in the area.

Strawbery Banke, Portsmouth, N. H. (a Trust member), won final city approval late in 1959 for the establishment of its urban renewal-colonial village project. This is the first in a number of steps ahead of the group before the village will be ready for tourists. The city signed a cooperative agreement with the Portsmouth Housing Authority for the Marcy-Washington street project. Next the Housing Authority will make its application for a loan and grant to the Urban Renewal Administration. If and when the loan and grant contract is approved by the federal government, a second appraisal of the affected property in the South End must be made. A first appraisal by a local real estate man was made about four years ago. This time, the appraiser will be selected by the Urban Renewal Administration, not by the local authority. On the basis of the two appraisals, the Urban Renewal Administration will determine the prices to be paid for South End property. It will probably be late summer before actual negotiations for South End property and relocation of residents in the area will actually begin. The federal government's share of the undertaking will be $546,860. The city's share will include the $200,000 bond issue which the city council has approved. In addition, the city will pay another $15,350 in cash and $53,500 in public works services. While the authority owns the land, it will pay

a sum in lieu of taxes, equal to the taxes which would have been paid on the assessed valuation in the year in which the authority actually acquires the property. When the land is finally cleared, the authority will sell it, plus 17 historical houses in the area, for $27,410 to Strawbery Banke. They will also transfer to the area other historic structures which would be otherwise destroyed by progress. The Banke proposes to sell some of the structures, "under proper restriction so that it becomes a much sought-after place in which to live and an area from which the city still receives a tax return, not to mention the added attraction of beauty and historic interest which the program will create for the city."

An American Institute of Architects Citation of Organization for 1960 will go to the Providence City Plan Commission for its leadership in effecting the College Hill demonstration grant study of historic area renewal in the City of Providence. Also, letters of commendation will go to Blair Associates, city planning consultants; the Providence Preservation Society; and the Housing & Home Finance Agency for their participation. In recommending this award to the A.I.A. Board of Directors, the Community Planning Committee described the study as "a unique presentation of a significant American problem." The committee stated further, "No other city in the United States has presented its historic conservation and rehabilitation problems as clearly, succinctly, or as beautifully. In our opinion, this is a major contribution to American architecture, to community planning and to civic design."

ILLINOIS SHORT COURSE

A Springfield, Ill., short course will be held June 10-13, made possible by a gift of $2,800 to the National Trust from the Lilly Endowment of Indianapolis, Ind. Co-sponsors with the National Trust are two of its member organizations, the Illinois State Department of Conservation, Division of Parks and Memorials; and the Illinois Historical Society. Since attendance is limited, preference will be given to members of the three sponsoring groups. A prospectus will be mailed to these persons and to National Trust members in states abutting Illinois.

PENNSYLVANIA INSTITUTE

"The Past—Foundation of the Future" will be the theme of the 1960 Institute of Pennsylvania Life and Culture, June 22-24, at University Park, Pa. Discussion groups will consider the operation of historical museums; gathering, preserving, and using research collections; preparing and editing historical publications; teaching state and local history; historic housekeeping; studies in preservation and restoration; techniques of historical and genealogical research; informing the public about historical organizations; and organizing and conducting junior historian clubs.

Co-sponsoring institutions are the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Pennsylvania Historical Association, Pennsylvania Federation of Historical Societies, Pennsylvania Council for the Social Studies, and Social Science Research Center of the Pennsylvania State University.

IN DANGER

Buffalo, N. Y. The town's lighthouse, having served as a beacon to lake sailors for 126 years, has been abandoned. The Coast Guard reports that no funds have been allocated for maintenance of the structure; if no local agency will underwrite $5000 for its repairs, it must go. There was a time when the removal of this durable harbor guardian would have been unthinkable because of the safety of ships and crews dependent upon it. Now radar and other electronic devices have displaced the ancient blinking kerosene "eye" which guided helmsmen through black stormy nights and surging seas. The Buffalo *Courier Express*, calling for its preservation, stated that "the lighthouse is part of the city's seal—its declaration to the world that Buffalo is the nation's greatest inland port. At a time when Buffalo is bidding to become a world port it seems only fitting that either the city or the Port Authority should take the necessary steps to insure that this symbol of former, present, and future greatness of the Port of Buffalo remains at the harbor entrance."

Providence, R. I. Wardwell House will be demolished to make way for a modern one-story post office, despite the cries of the historical society and town officials. Parts of the building, however, will be saved. The main doorway, columns, and the Palladian window have been bought by the Smithsonian Institution for its architectural section. Architectural students at the Rhode Island School of Design were assigned to make records of the building. Mrs. Antoinette Downing, of the Society of Architectural Historians, cited the building as an outstanding example of New England architecture.

New Brunswick, N. J. The Farley brothers, three hale old-timers practicing an old-time trade, face the loss of their almost 150-year-old blacksmith shop. The Farley smithy has stood on this site since the early 1800's, and the three brothers are the third generation to work there. The land upon which the shop sits is being cleared by the New Brunswick Housing Authority. The New Brunswick Historical Club and other history-minded groups in the city hope to continue the smithy as a living museum with the Farleys still running the shop. Dr. William H. Cole, president of the Club, explained that this is one of "five or six old-time blacksmith shops remaining in the United States. The others are in historic villages like Williamsburg, Dearborn, and Sturbridge and were assembled—not a single one is original. Here, we've got the smithy," he pointed out. "It is an original smithy that has been here for three generations. We do not have to add anything to it." The rafters of the old smithy are hung with hundreds of new (but rusty) horseshoes, stacks of used shoes are on the floor, old wagon wheels stand near the door, two smoke-blacked forges are alongside the right wall, anvils, and other machines of the blacksmith trade stand on the floor. Of course the brothers no longer earn their livelihood shoeing horses or banding wagon wheels. Their forges are run by electricity today, and they do a brisk business dressing the tips of jackhammers, picks, crowbars, chisels, and other iron tools needing sharp edges.

San Antonio, Texas. The San Antonio Conservation Society (a National Trust member) seeks to save the Navarro house, which will either be razed or moved to provide a site for a new jail. Navarro was one of two native-born signers of the Texas Declaration

of Independence at the Texas Constitutional Convention in 1836. He had first fought for Mexico against Spain, then for Texas against Mexico. He was a highly successful businessman and was at one time the largest taxpayer in San Antonio. During the Texas Revolution he gave his entire stock of groceries and supplies to the Texas Army, and the house was called "The Stomach of the Texas Army." A citizen's committee has been appointed by the Commissioners Court, headed by the chairman of the city's Historic Site Evaluation Committee, to consider ways and means to protect the house. There are actually two houses, which adjoin. One is a typical early Texas colonial structure with a long sweeping gable roof forming a porch. The other is a later structure with large stone corner quoins. The Society feels "that very probably we shall always possess jails, but we can never have another Navarro house." Plans call for making the house a museum. One room would be reserved for the Declarations of Independence of the United States, Texas, and Mexico, with a huge flag of Mexico on the wall, to emphasize international friendship.

New York, N. Y. The 1875 Jefferson Market Police Court House may be destroyed. Its architects were an Englishman, Calvert Vaux, and Frederick Withers. Vaux came to this country at the request of Andrew Jackson Downing in 1845 and worked with Frederick Law Olmstead on Central Park. According to Mrs. Agnes Gilchrist, who recorded the building for the Municipal Art Society in 1956, it is "the remaining outstanding example of High Victorian Gothic at its most decorative and most picturesque." The courthouse, a jail, and a market were combined on the triangular plot. Both the market and the jail have gone, the latter replaced by a new building about 1945.

Stevens Castle

Demolition of Stevens Castle, Hoboken, N. J., brought to an end the campaign to save it waged by historical societies, preservation groups, chambers of commerce, newspapers, individuals, the Stevens family, and the alumni of Stevens Institute (reported in Vol. 11, No. 4, 1959). The 105-year-old, 31-room Victorian mansion was built by Robert Livingston Stevens, brother of the founder of Stevens Institute. The mansion stood on Castle Point, a grassy bluff commanding a view of the New York skyline and the Hudson River from the Statue of Liberty to the George Washington Bridge. Since 1910 Stevens Castle was used by the Institute as a student-faculty center; a $100,000 restoration was completed in 1954.

Scheduled for completion in September 1961, a new 13-story $2 million center will have 100,000 square feet of floor space and be faced with gray limestone, black granite and metal, and a combination of modern masonry. John J. McNamara of New York is the architect; Stephen F. Voorhees, an architect and Stevens trustee, is the consultant.

The west facade of the Stadtschloss Palace, Postdam.

DESTRUCTION

Potsdam, East Germany. When the Stadtschloss, the old Potsdam City Palace, was scheduled to be dynamited in January by the Communist administration, the National Trust protested with the following telegram: "We urge reconsideration of decision to dynamite Potsdam City Palace, one of the greatest of few remaining examples of North German Baroque architecture. Loss of building would be irreparable disaster which would seriously lessen artistic significance of Potsdam. Thoughtful preservation of basis structure and adaptation to contemporary use would maintain architectural values of Potsdam which concern entire world." The telegram was carried in the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung,* the leading newspaper of West Germany, and several other publications.

Hans Huth, curator of Decorative Arts at the Art Institute of Chicago, and formerly in charge of the Stadtschloss museum, wrote: "Nearly 10 years ago the former royal palace of Berlin, damaged in the war, was pulled down completely, though unquestionably it could have been restored to house museums, offices, etc., as it had done ever since the court had gone out of existence. Now the old Royal Palace of Potsdam in turn is to be destroyed. True, it has been damaged much worse than the Berlin palace, but the shell still exists, and there is no reason why this could not be rebuilt to house public offices in exactly the way it was done in Warsaw. There the face of the grand square was saved by keeping intact the facades to cover buildings adapted for modern use.

"Some might object to such a procedure and call it a fake or a compromise. But Potsdam is an exceptional case. The area comprising the former State of Prussia has lost nearly all of its great buildings of the baroque period. Potsdam palace is the last of its kind, and one of the most representative ones. This is not all. It is, and always has been, the heart and center of the city of Potsdam. The city was organized literally in view of the old castle and present palace. The architects who gave it its final shape during the period of Frederick the Great did so in consideration of its relationships to the city. No sensitive architect who today would replace the palace by a modern building could do so without violating the scheme of the city, unless he planned a structure of approximately identical dimensions. So why not keep the present architectural shape and use it in the best way possible? Its destruction will mean a loss to the already frightfully diminished architectural heritage of the baroque period which has come down through the ages in North Germany.

"Not only is the palace in danger, but rather the entire urbanistic situation. Potsdam without its palace will be an agglomeration of houses with no center of orientation. As far as its city planning was concerned, Potsdam was always far more interesting than Berlin; an amputation like this is a disaster and will wipe Potsdam from the map of artistically important cities. All that is left of its eighteenth-century tradition will be the summerhouses of Frederick the Great in the Park of Sans Souci; charming, certainly, but trifling values compared with those of the City Palace and what it meant for Potsdam."

Questers

The Questers have made a grant of $1500 for the restoration of paintings at Decatur House, the Trust's property on Lafayette Square, opposite the White House in Washington, D. C. It was also reported in the last issue of the *Quarterly* that an annual fund was being established by the Questers for restoration of notable paintings in historic house museums. This proposal is being voted upon by The Questers membership.—W.J.M.

ARCHIVAL INSTITUTE

Radcliffe College, with the co-sponsorship of the Department of History of Harvard University, will offer the seventh annual summer Institute on Historical and Archival Management June 27 through August 5, 1960.

Designed for college graduates who are interested in a career in archival, museum, and historical society work, the course is also open to employees of institutions in these related fields. Students will devote full time to the study of archival and historical resources and their relation to the interpretation of history. They will visit representative manuscript and archival depositories, historical societies, museums, and historic sites and buildings in the area of greater Boston.

Director of the course is Lester J. Cappon, director of the Institute of Early American History and Culture at Williamsburg, Va., archival consultant of Colonial Williamsburg, and lecturer in history at the College of William and Mary.

The class will be limited to 16. Two full-tuition scholarships of $200 each are available. Inquiries should be addressed to the Archival Institute, 10 Garden Street, Cambridge 38, Mass.

The Murphy Home in 1876 and 1959.

Murphy Home

Governor Edmund G. Brown of California signed Assembly Bill No. 1348 on July 17, "authorizing the State Park Commission to accept the Murphy Home in Sunnyvale as a state historical monument and to provide for its preservation, development, and interpretation."

The first frame house in Santa Clara County, the Murphy Home was milled to specification in Bangor, Maine, shipped around the Horn in prefabricated sections, and put together in 1850 with wooden pegs and rawhide thongs, as a residence for Martin Murphy, Jr., founder of Sunnyvale. Members of the Murphy family continuously occupied the house. Other members of the pioneer family were Martin Murphy, Sr., who founded San Martin; his granddaughter Diana who married Morgan Hill, founder of that town; John, brother of Martin Murphy, Jr., who founded Murphy's in Calaveras County; and his sister Ellen Murphy, who was wife of Captain Charles M. Weber, founder of Stockton.

The Sunnyvale Historical Society was formed in November of 1956 when the City Council threatened demolition of the Murphy Home. After immediate destruction was warded off, the group proceeded to raise funds for its restoration. Since 1956 the Society cleaned up and remodeled a caretaker's cottage and established a caretaker on the property, putting an end to vandalism; the organization has tried to educate the public to the house's value through newspaper publicity, a library display featuring books on the Murphy party, and a brochure on the Murphy estate; it has established the house's merit and the cost of restoration, investigated various sources of help, and succeeded in getting the city to offer the house to the state.

Erected in 1850 the house became the center of both religious and social activities. Priests on their way from San Francisco to Mission Santa Clara used it as a stopover. A special room was set aside for visiting church dignitaries—the bed used by San Francisco's first Archbishop, Joseph Sadoc Alemany, is still known as the "Bishop's bed." Altars were set up downstairs and masses said for worshippers living in the area.

The Home was the scene of the "most fabulous social event ever held in California"—the fiftieth wedding anni-

versary of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Murphy, Jr., on July 18, 1881. Not wishing to leave anyone out, they extended a general invitation to their many friends throughout the state, and guests attending have been variously estimated at 7,000 to 10,000.

Huge barbecue tables built to seat 1,000 persons at a time were set under the spreading oaks where now stand Southern Pacific utility sheds. Barbecued over a trench 115 feet long, four feet wide, and four feet deep were seven 18-month-old beeves, 14 sheep, and 10 swine. Supplementing the barbecue were wagon-loads of ham and roasting chickens, with salad served in bushel baskets. Guests downed the feast with 15 gallons of coffee, 15 barrels of lager, kegs of whiskey, hogsheads of lemonade, and a freight car of champagne.

Large oaks covered the area, which took an imported crew of 50 Chileans 30 years to clear. Many of the wide variety of plants growing in the four acres remaining of the once extensive estate, including a giant 60-foot spreading fig tree, grew from Mission cuttings.

Martin Murphy, Jr., had accompanied his father and family across 2,000 miles of largely unmapped area in 1844, with the party distinguishing itself as the first to arrive in California via the Sierras in covered wagon, the first to bring oxen across the plains, the first to take the route still being used by the Union and Southern Pacific Railroad, and the first to view Lake Tahoe. Two years later the ill-fated Donner party was to use the same route.

Difficulties encountered by the intrepid pioneers are told by George Stuart in his book, *Opening of the California Trail*. The trip lasted a year to a day from the time the Murphys left Missouri to the day they camped on the edge of the Sacramento Valley. During this time they had lifted wagons up sheer cliffs, forded streams, traveled with the fear of Indians, had gone without food for three days; also two children were born.

According to George Bancroft, Martin Murphy's original rancho in the Sacramento Valley was the setting for the planning of the Bear Revolt.

The journey that had led Martin Murphy, Jr., from Ireland to Canada, to Missouri, to California, ended in Santa Clara County where he purchased from Don Mariano Castro more than 4,000 acres and built his house, which was originally called *Bayview*, as it then overlooked the Bay.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

A history-mobile is the newest venture of the Illinois Historical Society. As a traveling museum, it will be equipped with showcases in which documents from public and private collections and other materials of historical interest can be displayed. The truck will tour the state under the direction of an instructor who can answer the questions of those attracted to the showing. The first collection will feature the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution with its Bill of Rights. The history-mobile is being financed with funds from a charitable trust established under the will of Col. Robert R. McCormick, late editor and publisher of the Chicago *Tribune*. A later exhibit will be on the Northwest Ordinance, a subject of life-long study by Colonel McCormick, and its influence on the development of Ohio, Indiana, Wisconsin, Michigan, and Minnesota as well as Illinois.

Mrs. Norman B. Livermore, who was instrumental in the establishment of Angel Island as a California state park, has been honored by a 1959 legislative act, approved by the State

Park Commission. Henceforth former Mt. Ida on the Island will be known as Caroline S. Livermore Mountain.

American Heritage launched into a new medium with its television series, "Our American Heritage." Six shows were planned for winter and early spring presentation by Mildred Freed Alberg and sponsored by the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States. American Heritage's responsibility is to help the producer choose stimulating and colorful subjects and provide scholarly assistance, to make sure "Our American Heritage" is authentic, well-documented history. Key chapters from the lives of Thomas Jefferson, Eli Whitney, John C. Fremont, Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., Ulysses S. Grant, and Andrew Carnegie recall one or a few critical times —of decision, or courage, or inspiration.

A program for training qualified candidates for professional careers in art museums was recently announced by the National Gallery of Art. Established for this purpose are two fellowships called the David E. Finley Fellowship in honor of the National Gallery's first director. Fellows will be appointed for one year, subject to renewal for an additional one or two years. It is expected that the first year will be spent by the Fellows in the United States, and the second and third years abroad. Funds for the fellowships were provided by the Old Dominion Foundation and Avalon Foundation, established respectively by Mr. Paul Mellon and Mrs. Ailsa Mellon Bruce.

Annual awards of the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society were presented on January 20 in New York City. They have been given every year since 1929 to persons who distinguish themselves in the fields of conservation and preservation in the United States. Mrs. J. Watson Webb was the McAneny recipient for her contribution in the establishment and maintenance of the Shelburne Museum at Shelburne, Vt. Aubrey Drury received, posthumously, the Horace Marsden Albright Scenic Preservation Medal for achievements in the acquisition of park areas, saving of redwood forests, and promoting interest in California history. The Gold Pugsley Medal was awarded to Alfred A. Knopf, publisher; the Silver Pugsley Medal for work on the state level went to George L. Collins of San Anselmo, Calif.; and the Bronze Pugsley Medal for work on the city level, to Homer Fish, Wheeling, W. Va., who developed Oglebay Park. A Special Citation of Achievement was granted Mrs. Helen Duprey Bullock "in recognition of her high professional standards and dedicated services to the movement of historic preservation in the United States of America. For her work at Colonial Williamsburg, the University of Virginia, the Library of Congress, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Society further commends her. As editor of the journal, *Historic Preservation*, she has been a constant source of information, aid, and inspiration to Americans in helping them preserve their heritage."

Independence Hall was awarded the first of a new series of markers being issued by the Philadelphia Historical Commission to certified historic buildings. "It is fitting that the nation's most important historic shrine should receive the Commission's plaque No. 1," Mayor Richardson Dilworth said. "Others will be available both for publicly and privately owned historic buildings." The enameled markers, each bearing a city seal and a serial number, are about the size of the plaques once issued by colonial volunteer fire and insurance companies to identify their subscribers. Like the fire markers, the historic markers will be prominently affixed to the structure and will be

transferable only with the title of the property. The plaques may be obtained by applying to the Commission and paying a nominal sum to the manufacturer. Appointed in 1956, the Commission is charged with listing all the buildings in the city having historic interest, seeing that they are not unsuitably altered or demolished, and recommending plans for the preservation of all historic buildings. To date it has certified 1150 structures, most of them in the downtown Old City, in what used to be the outlying district of Southwark and Germantown. The Commission has an important role in the Washington Square East project, where its certifications are a guide to which buildings should be preserved and which may be demolished.

Old Sturbridge Village, Sturbridge, Mass., reports that 1200 people in nine months became Friends of Old Sturbridge. More than half of these signed up in the Village Tavern, where Sturbridge conducts an "in-Village" method of securing members. A membership desk in the Tavern is staffed daily. "When the visitor is actually in the Village is when his enthusiasm is the highest," explains Miss Dorothy Sleeper, membership secretary. "He is most likely to sign up when he is right on the spot." *The New-England Galaxy* is a new quarterly magazine published by Old Sturbridge and sent free to "The Friends." Single copies of the magazine, devoted to reporting New England life, manners, and social history, are 75 cents.

"Look Back to Savannah's Future," title of a Savannah *Morning News*' editorial, commended the dramatic, last-minute rescue of Marshall Row, a landmark doomed for destruction. Four members of Historic Savannah, Inc., personally made up the purchase price of $45,000 for the four old houses. The Society's Vigilantes chairman had succeeded in obtaining a temporary stay of demolition, but no purchasers until the last moment. The owners eventually hope to dispose of Marshall Row to people who agree to restore the houses. They will be sold for the purchase price; profit was not the aim of this investment. Marshall Row was built of brick about 1855 after a fire leveled the wooden buildings in the neighborhood. Each residence has a 30-foot frontage and extends 60 feet back to a lane. Each consists of four stories with a second story stoop entrance and white marble steps. The Rt. Rev. Stephen Elliott, first Episcopal Bishop of Georgia (1841-66), resided in one of them. The *Morning News* called the Society's action a "progressive spirit of preservation" and urged solid financing on a scale large enough to assure preservation of the total charm of the city.

Marshall Row, Oglethorpe Avenue, Savannah, Ga.

PUBLICATIONS

Protecting Our Heritage. Historic Buildings, Museums & Libraries. Boston, Mass.: National Fire Protection Association, 60 Batterymarch Street. 1948. 28 pp., illus. $.50.

This manual is one of many publications on fire protection issued by the National Fire Protection Association, the international non-profit membership organization devoted to the reduction of loss of life and property by fire. This one is directed to curators, librarians, and custodians who have in their charge valuable properties—"old manuscripts, rare books and collectors items, early and not-so-early Americana, and historic buildings."

Many may not have had an opportunity to read these words of caution in 1948. A limited supply of *Protecting Our Heritage* is available at no charge to member organizations at National Trust headquarters, 2000 K Street, N.W., Washington, D. C.

A Century of Architecture in Oregon. 1859-1959. Marion Dean Ross. Eugene, Ore.: Women's Architectural League of the Oregon Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. 24 pp., illus. $.50.

Produced under the auspices of the Women's Architectural League of the Oregon Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, this souvenir of Oregon's centennial year is similar to booklets published in the guide series of the A.I.A.

For convenience in surveying the Oregon architecture, discussion has been divided into four periods of a quarter century: its pioneer period, its coming of age, its fashionable and modern periods. The century is sum-

marized by Marion Dean Ross, professor of architecture at the University of Oregon: "Oregonians looking back over the first 100 years of statehood can find in the architecture a mirror of the conditions of life, both in its practical and its intellectual aspects. Although not all that might well have been preserved is standing, there remains enough to make this picture vivid and exciting. Oregon was a recently settled area when it became a state. There were few large structures of any kind, and the general nature of building was due to necessity rather than design. Yet even in the modest structures that sufficed for the everyday needs of the Oregonians of 1859 one can perceive a sense of rightness and at least a latent desire for comfort and refinement. Today, though fortunately there are still large areas of natural terrain, there are cities and towns quite comparable with those in other parts of the country. Both in respect to technique and to design Oregon can look with pride on the architecture of 1959. Instead of a scattering of small communities on the outer fringes of civilization, Oregon is now known throughout the world for the quality of its buildings. In the beginning all the architectural ideas had perforce to be imported: now architectural forms have been created in Oregon which have indeed become a matter of export."

Copies may be obtained from Professor Ross or the University of Oregon Co-operative Store, Eugene. Money collected from the sale of the booklet goes toward the scholarship fund of the Women's Architectural League.

Tualatin Plains Presbyterian Church, *c.* 1876, is a simple version of Oregon's Gothic Revival in wood. It was used to achieve a Gothic feeling through the repetition of vertical and angular members.

The Management of Small History Museums. Carl E. Guthe. Madison, Wisc.: The American Association of State and Local History, 816 State Street. 1959. 69 pp. $.50.

From the general topic of an earlier book, *So You Want a Good Museum*, in this volume Mr. Guthe has singled out the history museum, and in particular the small history museum, as the institution that needs professionalization on the one hand and historical perspective on the other. As one of the leaders in the movement to define, establish, and encourage better museum practices, Mr. Guthe says that the key to an understanding of the history museum is that "the exhibit program in each history museum differs from that in every other, because it reflects the significant experiences of the community it serves and the attitudes and policies of the citizens who direct its destinies."

In the preface, Albert Corey, Historian of the New York State Department of Education, writes, "Too many

small history museums still belie the name of museum. Many are little more than depositories of historical objects. Their collections are not adequately cataloged or are not cataloged at all. Their methods of preservation do credit to attic storehouses. Their exhibits are little more than organized confusion. Too often they are proud to own relics that are meaningful only to them and a small body of associates. Articles are exhibited because of their sentimental value to the few or to donors, not because they illumine the human processes of the past."

"There is one thing," Dr. Corey continues, "that this manual cannot do for the director or other head of the small history museum. Although it gives him procedural and technical advice and encouragement to carry forward a good program, and an understanding of most of the problems that he is likely to meet, it cannot help him to develop a stimulating museum program unless he has a good working knowledge of historical processes, a capacity for painstaking effort, and an artistic imagination with which to capture the spirit of the past and make it live in meaningful exhibits. These things a man must acquire for himself."

BOOKS RECEIVED

America's Forgotten Statesman, Albert Gallatin. Frank Ewing. New York: Vantage Press. 1959. 305 pp., index, biblio. $3.95.

Elm St. Politics. Stephen A. Mitchell. New York: Oceana Publications, Inc. 1959. 123 pp., index. $2.75.

Portrait of Patriotism. Ann Hawkes Hutton. Philadelphia: Chilton Co. 1959. 190 pp., biblio., index. $2.75.

Prelude to Independence. An Address by Dean Acheson. Reprinted from *The Yale Review,* Vol. XLVIII, No. 4, June 1959. Williamsburg, Va.: Colonial Williamsburg. 14 pp.

MONROE LIBRARY

The James Monroe Memorial Foundation of Fredericksburg, Va., will break ground on Monday, April 25, for the addition of a James Monroe Memorial Library wing to the fifth President's original law office, which has been a museum dedicated to him and the Monroe family since 1927.

The library will house 7,000 volumes pertaining to Monroe, the Monroe Doctrine, and the United States' diplomatic relations with Latin America, bridging Monroe's era with the present day. Included is a large portion of Monroe's original correspondence with prominent contemporaries and the largest-known collection of likenesses of Monroe—portraits, miniatures, engravings, lithographs, aquatints, woodcuts, and silhouettes. The whole, when completed, will be similar to the Hoover, Roosevelt, Truman, and Eisenhower museum-libraries, although of necessity on a smaller scale.

Governor J. Lindsay Almond, Jr., of Virginia, will be the speaker at the groundbreaking ceremonies, to be held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Foundation.

1960 ANNUAL MEETING

October 21 through 23 have been named as the dates for the 1960 annual meeting of the National Trust. To be held in Pittsburgh, Pa., the meeting will have its headquarters at the new Pittsburgh-Hilton Hotel. Members of the local committee handling arrangements for the meeting are Mrs. Henry P. Hoffstot, Jr., chairman, Virginia E. Lewis, Herbert A. May, William Oliver, S. K. Stevens, and Gordon B. Washburn. Registration blanks and programs will be mailed to all members and member organizations in the late summer. Please reserve the dates.

National Trust for Historic Preservation

Chartered by Act of Congress, public law 408, 81st Congress, "to further the policy enunciated in the Historic Sites Act (49 Stat. 666) and to facilitate public participation in the preservation of sites, buildings, and objects of national significance or interest and providing a national trust for historic preservation."

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"I give and bequeath to the National Trust for Historic Preservation in the United States, an educational and non-profit corporation created by Act of Congress on October 26, 1949, the sum of .dollars, which sum is to be used in such manner as the Trustees of said National Trust in their discretion believe to be appropriate in preserving America's architectural and historical inheritance."

CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP

Individual:	Associate (Student, Teacher Professional)	$ 5	minimum
	Active	10	"
	Contributing	$ 25	minimum
	Sustaining	100	"
	Life	$1000	minimum
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